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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Commission on Trade in Goods and Services,
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Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Major agricultural concerns of developing countries: Impact of the reform process in agriculture on LDCs and net food-importing countries and ways to address their concerns in multilateral trade negotiations

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

Addendum

GE.01-50305 LS

ENG

IV. Comments received

Morocco (received on 19 December 2000, original in French)

1. The outcome, with respect to different subjects under the ongoing negotiations on the agricultural reform, is formulated in a very general manner.

2. The ways to put into practice the recommendations listed in the outcome are not given enough attention, as the ways to make the recommendations effective are not mentioned.

3. The feasibility of the outcome depends on its conformity with the Agreement on Agriculture and increased, enhanced or new concessions that developed countries are ready to provide to least developed countries and net food-importing developing countries. However, having recourse to export subsidies and domestic support measures, especially direct payment under the production limitation programme (Blue Box), principally benefits those developed countries which do not agree to eliminate them.

4. Certain recommendations in the outcome do not take into account the necessary conditions for implementation that are stipulated in the Agreement on Agriculture. For instance the request for special safeguard measures by all developing countries would, in effect, benefit only those countries which had reserved the right to claim them for tariffied products.